


Modified FORM PTO-1390 (REV 11-98)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER ACE-1001	
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371				U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)	
				10/009229	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP00/02771 ✓		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 27 April 2000 ✓		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 07 May 1999 ✓	
TITLE OF INVENTION PET BOTTLE					
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Chisato HIRATA					
<p>Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. <input type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in (35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). <input type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). <input type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). <p>Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. <input type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: RETURN POSTCARD 					

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/009229		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP00/02771		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER ACE-1001	
17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1) - (5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1040.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$890.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$760.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$670.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$96.00 <div style="text-align: right;">ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</div>				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 150px; width: 100%;"></div>	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(3)). <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> \$ </div>					
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	3 - 20 =	0	X \$18.00	\$ 0.00	
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	0	X \$84.00	\$ 0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$280.00	\$280.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$1170.00	
Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. A Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				\$585.00	
SUBTOTAL =				\$585.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$585.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property			+	\$0.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$585.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				charged	\$
a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$585.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>02-0410</u> in the amount of <u>\$585.00</u> to cover the above fees. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>02-0410</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> Mitchell P. Brook Baker & McKenzie 101 West Broadway, 12th Floor San Diego, California 92101-0429 </div> <div style="width: 35%; text-align: right;">  SIGNATURE: _____ Mitchell P. Brook NAME 32,967 REGISTRATION NUMBER </div> </div>					

13/p1b

PET BOTTLE

[Technical Field]

The present invention relates to a PET bottle for containing
5 a soft drink such as juice, tea and mineral water.

[Background Art]

Conventionally, a PET bottle for containing a soft drink
consists of a bottle main body made of a thermoplastic resin and
a cap detachably attached to a mouth portion of the bottle main
10 body. As disclosed in JP-A-7-205258, the bottle main body is provided
with decompression panels for avoiding deformation, fracture and
the like of the bottle main body following compression and
decompression inside the bottle main body.

The bottle main body is generally molded as follows. A
polyethylene terephthalate resin material is injected to form a
preform of a test tube shape. The preform includes a mouth portion
15 having a support ring and a male screw formed on its open-end side.

The mouth portion is subject to whitening crystallization by
appropriate means to make it less likely that deformation due to
20 heat or the like occurs. The lower portion of the preform other
than the mouth portion is heated by heating means such as an infrared
ray lamp. Next, the heated preform is placed in blow molds of
predetermined shapes and inflated in the circumference direction
by blowing pressurized air into the preform while being extended

in the longitudinal direction by a stretch rod to form a bottle main body of a shape along the internal surface shapes of the blow molds.

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The bottle main body molded by a so-called biaxial stretching
5 blow molding as described above is filled with a heat-sterilized drink from the mouth portion at a drink filling chamber and a sterilized cap is attached to the mouth portion to complete a PET bottle. Although the inside of the PET bottle is decompressed when a temperature of the heat-sterilized drink falls, since the decompression panels are deformed, deformation and fracture of the bottle main body can be avoided. Further, the decompression panels are made of recessed portions.

Since the bottle main body of the conventional PET bottle is formed in an extremely simple cylindrical or rectangular parallelepiped shape having the decompression panels provided on the entire surface, there is a problem in that it lacks fun and is immediately thrown away when the soft drink inside is consumed. In addition, since any conventional bottle has almost the same external shape regardless of goods, there is a problem in that consumer
20 eagerness to purchase cannot be aroused by the external shape.

[Disclosure of the Invention]

The present invention has been devised in view of the above-mentioned problems, and it is an object of the present invention

to provide a PET bottle of an unknown and new structure in which
a bottle main body is divided into a base portion and an ornamental
portion and decompression panels are provided on the base portion
side, the ornamental portion can be formed in various characteristic
5 shapes, and which can arouse consumer eagerness to purchase by the
ornamental portion.

A PET bottle in accordance with the first claim of the present
invention has the following means in order to attain the
above-mentioned object.

(a) a bottle main body and a cap that is detachably attached
to a mouth portion of the bottle main body.

(b) wherein the bottle main body is made of a thermoplastic
resin and consists of a base portion and an ornamental portion.

(c) wherein the base portion is provided with decompression
panels for avoiding deformation, fracture and the like of the bottle
main body following compression/decompression inside the bottle
main body.

A PET bottle in accordance with the second claim of the present
invention has the ornamental portion formed in an animal or a human
20 shape in addition to the above-mentioned means.

A PET bottle in accordance with the third claim of the present
invention has the cap formed in a hat shape in addition to the
above-mentioned means.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

Fig. 1 is an overall perspective view showing an embodiment of a PET bottle in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a side view of Fig. 1;

5 Fig. 3 is a front view of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is an X-X sectional view of Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 is a front view showing a manufacturing step;

Fig. 7 is a sectional view showing a manufacturing step;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view showing a manufacturing step;

Fig. 9 is an overall perspective view showing another embodiment of the PET bottle in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 10 is a perspective view showing a form of a cap;

Fig. 11 is a sectional side view of Fig. 10;

Fig. 12 is an overall perspective view showing a state in which the cap of Fig. 10 is used; and

Fig. 13 is a side sectional view of Fig. 12.

[Best Mode for carrying out the Invention]

20 Embodiments of the present invention will be described based on Figs. 1 to 13. Fig. 1 is an overall perspective view showing an embodiment of a PET bottle in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a side view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a front view of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a plan view of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is an X-X sectional

view of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a front view showing a manufacturing step. Figs. 7 and 8 are sectional views showing manufacturing steps. Fig. 9 is an overall perspective view showing another embodiment of the PET bottle in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 10 is a perspective view showing one form of a cap. Fig. 11 is a sectional side view of Fig. 10. Fig. 12 is an overall perspective view showing a state in which the cap of Fig. 10 is used. Fig. 13 is a side sectional view of Fig. 12.

A PET bottle 1 in accordance with the first claim of the present invention consists of a bottle main body 2 and a cap 21 that is detachably attached to a mouth portion 16 of the bottle main body 2. The bottle main body 2 is made of a thermoplastic resin, more specifically, a polyethylene terephthalate resin, and consists of a base portion 3 of a bottomed cylinder shape and an ornamental portion 10 above the base portion 3. The base portion 3 is provided with a plurality of compression panels 5 for avoiding deformation, fracture and the like of the bottle main body 2 following compression/decompression inside the bottle main body 2. The decompression panels 5 are made of elliptic recessed portions 6. Further, the shape of the recessed portions is not specifically limited and they can be rectangular recessed portions 7 as shown in Fig. 9.

The ornamental portion 10 is formed in an animal shape, on which a head portion 11, a torso portion 12, arm portions 13 and

leg portions 15 are formed. The mouth portion 16 is formed at the top of the head portion 11. A support ring 17 and a male screw 19 above the support ring 17 are formed at the mouth portion 16. The cap 21 is detachably screwed onto the male screw 19 of the mouth
5 portion 16.

The bottle main body 2 is formed as follows. A polyethylene terephthalate resin material is injected by an injection apparatus to form a preform 22 of a test tube shape. The preform 22 includes the mouth portion 16 having the support ring 17 and the male screw 19 formed on its open-end side. The mouth portion 16 is subject to whitening crystallization by appropriate means to make it less likely that deformation due to heat or the like occurs.

The lower portion of the preform 22 other than the mouth portion 16 is heated by heating means such as an infrared ray lamp. Next, the heated preform 22 is placed in blow molds 29 and 30 of predetermined shapes and inflated in the circumference direction by blowing pressurized air in the preform 22 while being extended in the longitudinal direction by a stretch rod 31 to form the bottle main body 2 of a shape along the internal surface shapes of the blow
10 molds. The blow mold 30 consists of a front mold 32 and a rear mold 33 to be joined with the front mold 32 and has recessed portions, which form the outline of the base portion 3 and the outline of ornamental portion 10, formed on its internal surface.

The bottle main body 2 molded by a so-called biaxial stretching

blow molding as described above is filled with a heat-sterilized drink from the mouth portion 16 in a drink filling chamber and a sterilized cap 21 is screwed onto the male screw 19 of the mouth portion 16 to complete the PET bottle 1. Although the inside of 5 the PET bottle 1 is decompressed when a temperature of the heat-sterilized drink falls, since the decompression panels 5 are deformed, deformation and failure of the bottle main body 2 can be avoided.

Since the PET bottle 1 is provided with the decompression panels 5 intensively around the base portion 2 as described above, it is not necessary to provide the decompression panels 5 on the ornamental portion 10, whereby the ornamental portion 10 can be molded at will. With the ornamental portion 10, a characteristic is given to a form unlike the conventional PET bottle of a simple shape, which makes it easy to distinguish goods from other goods by an external shape, and consumer eagerness to purchase is aroused by the ornamental portion 10.

In addition, since the PET bottle 1 has a shape in which the ornamental portion 10 is mounted on the base portion 3, there is 20 an effect in that it can be used as an ornament with the base portion 3 as a pedestal and can also be used as a flower vase or a paper weight with water in the bottle main body 2 even after a soft drink in the bottle main body 2 is consumed. In addition, if a shape of the base portion 3 is adapted to a standard of an ordinary PET bottle,

since the base portion 3 can be manufactured in a conventional manufacturing line, it is not necessary to provide a new manufacturing line. In addition, the base portion 3 can be easily grasped when filling it with a drink. Moreover, if the ornamental portion 10 is formed not to exceed the external circumference of the base portion 3, the PET bottles 1 can be housed uniformly at an equal interval in a conventional case for transporting PET bottles without leaning to one side. Furthermore, since the ornamental portions 10 do not contact each other, they are not damaged.

Further, although the ornamental portion 10 is formed in an animal shape, it is not limited to the shape and can be modified in various shapes such as a human shape, an automobile shape and a rocket shape. If the ornamental portion 10 is formed in an animal shape, a human shape or the like, it particularly stimulates eagerness to purchase of children and the PET bottle 1 can be used as a toy after a soft drink is consumed.

In addition, as shown in Figs. 10 and 11, a cap can be formed in a hat shape. The cap 24 is provided with a cylindrical cap main body 25, a brim portion 26 formed in the lower periphery of the main body 25, a female screw portion 27 to be screwed onto the male screw portion 19 of the mouth portion 16 and a recessed portion 28 for containing the support ring 17. When the female screw portion 27 of the cap 24 is screwed onto the male screw portion 19 of the mouth portion 16 of the bottle main body 2, the entire mouth portion

16 is housed in the cap 24 to form a shape as if a hat is put on the head portion 11 of the ornamental portion 10 formed in an animal shape, and thus the PET bottle can be used as an ornament.

As described above, since the PET bottle according to the first claim of the present invention is provided with decompression panels centering around a base portion, there is an effect in that it becomes unnecessary to provide decompression panels on an ornamental portion, whereby the ornamental portion can be molded at will. In addition, since an ornamental portion is molded, there is also an effect in that a characteristic is given to a form unlike the conventional PET bottle of a simple shape, which makes it easy to distinguish goods from other goods by an external shape, and consumer eagerness to purchase is aroused by the ornamental portion.

Moreover, even after a soft drink in a bottle main body is consumed, since the PET bottle according to the first aspect of the present invention has a shape in which an ornamental portion is mounted on a base portion, there is an effect in that it can be used as an ornament with the base portion as a pedestal and can also be used as a flower vase or a paper weight with water in the bottle main body. In addition, if a shape of a base portion is adapted to a standard of an ordinary PET bottle, since the base portion can be manufactured in a conventional manufacturing line, there is an effect in that it is not necessary to provide a new manufacturing line. In addition, there is also an effect in that the base portion

Claims

1. A PET bottle comprising:

(a) a bottle main body and a cap that is detachably attached

5 to a mouth portion of the bottle main body;

(b) wherein the bottle main body is made of a thermoplastic resin and consists of a base portion and an ornamental portion; and

(c) wherein the base portion is provided with decompression panels for avoiding deformation, fracture and the like of the bottle main body following compression/decompression inside the bottle main body.

2. A PET bottle according to claim 1, wherein the ornamental portion is formed in an animal or a human shape.

3. A PET bottle according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the cap is formed in a hat shape.

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图 1

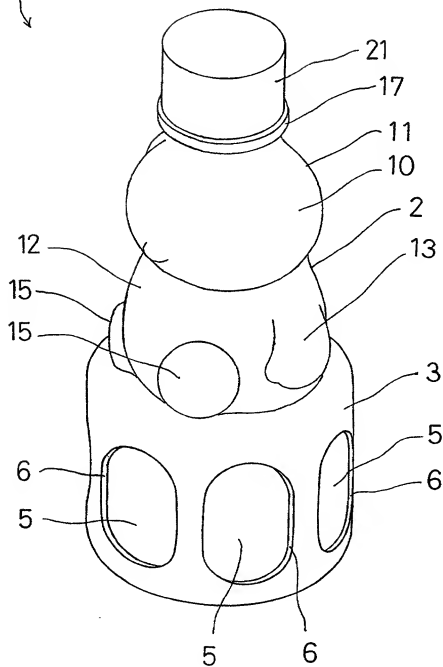
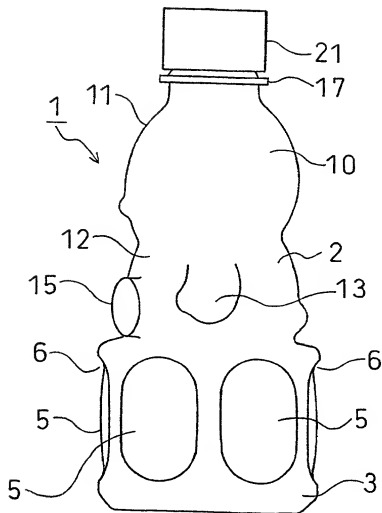
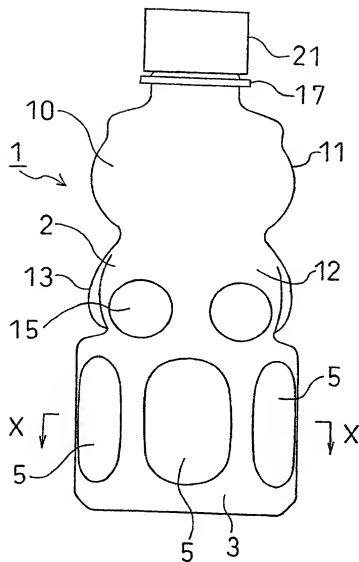
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図 2



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図 3



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図 4

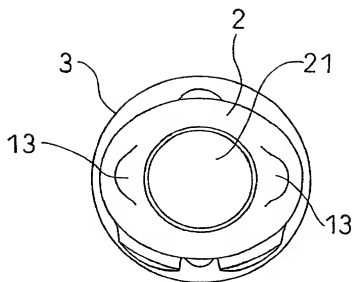
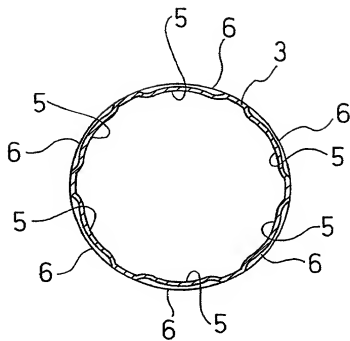


図 5



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図 6

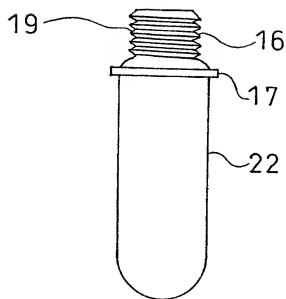
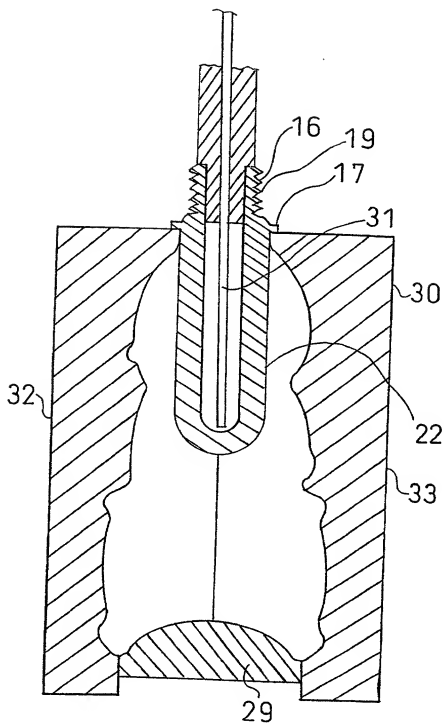
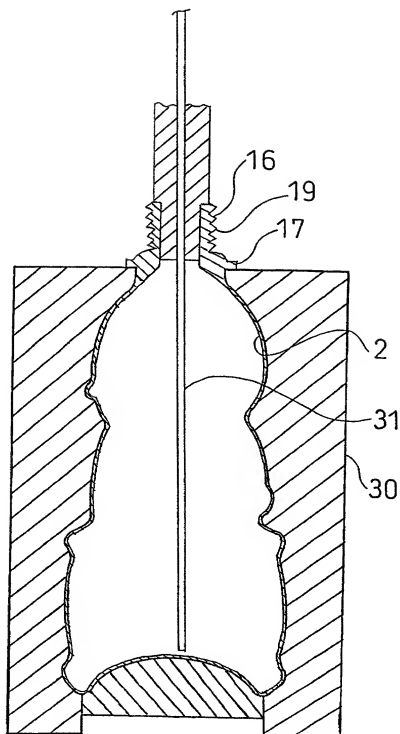


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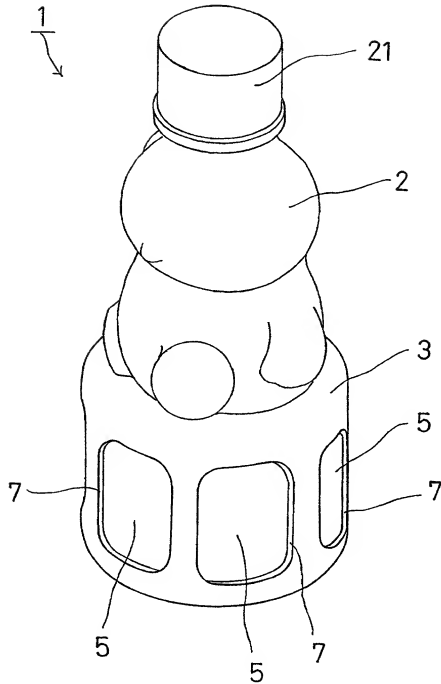


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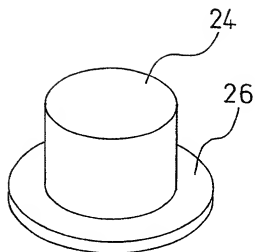
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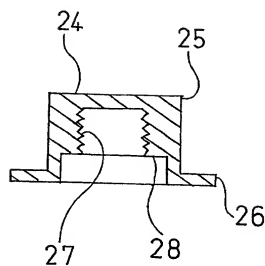
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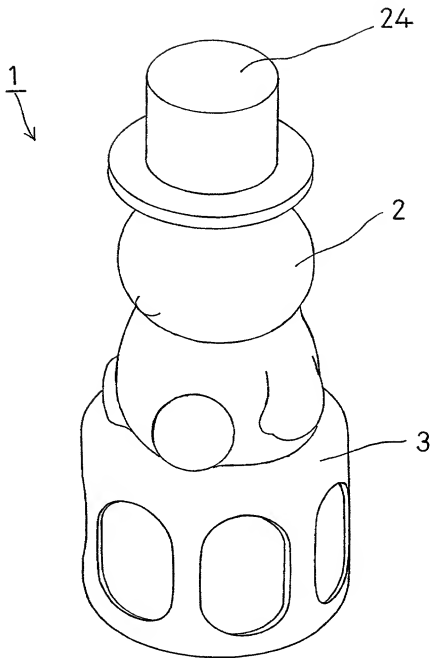
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図 11



1 2 / 1 3

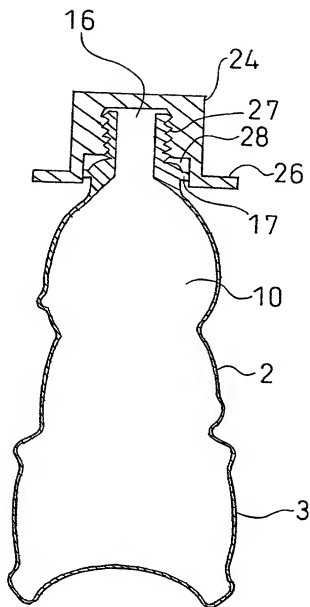
図 1 2



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Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application

特許出願宣言書及び委任状

Japanese Language Declaration

日本語宣言書

私は、以下に記名された発明者として、ここに下記の通り宣言する：

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that

私の住所、郵便の宛先そして国籍は、私の氏名の後に記載された通りである。

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

下記の名前の発明について、特許請求範囲に記載され、且つ特許が求められている発明主題に関して、私は、最初、最先且つ唯一の発明者である（唯一の氏名が記載されている場合）か、或いは最初、最先且つ共同発明者である（複数の氏名が記載されている場合）と信じている。

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Pet Bottle

上記発明の明細書はここに添付されているが、下記の欄がチェックされている場合は、この限りでない：

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

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この出版の米国出版番号またはPCT国際出版番号は、
_____ であり、且つ
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☒ was filed on 27/04/00
as United States Application Number or
PCT International Application Number
PCT/JP00/0277 and was amended on
_____ (if applicable)

私は、上記の修正書によって修正された、特許請求範囲を含む上記明細書を検討し、且つ内容を理解していることをここに表明する。

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

私は、連邦規則法典第37編規則1.56に定義されている、特許性について重要な情報を開示する機器があることを認める。

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

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Japanese Language Declaration (日本語宣言書)

私は、米国法典第35編119条(a)-(d)項又は365条(b)項に基づき下記の、米国以外の国の少なくとも一か国を指定している特許協力条約365(a)項に基づく国際出願、又は外国での特許出願もしくは発明者証の出願についての外国優先権をここに主張するとともに、優先権を主張している、本出願の前に出願された特許または発明者証の外国出願を以下に、枠内にマークすることで、示しています。

Prior Foreign Application(s) 外国での先行出願

(Number) (番号)	(Country) (国名)
(Number) (番号)	(Country) (国名)

私は、第35編米国法典119条(e)項に基づいて下記の米国特許出願規定に記載された権利をここに主張いたします。

(Application No.) (出願番号)	(Filing Date) (出願日)
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私は、下記の米国法典第35編120条に基づいて下記の米国特許出願に記載された権利、又は米国を指定している特許協力条約365条(c)項に基づく権利をここに主張します。また、本出願の各請求範囲の内容が米国法典第35編112条第1項又は特許協力条約で規定された方法で先行する米国特許出願に開示されていない限り、その先行米国出願書提出日以降で本出願書の日本国内または特許協力条約国際提出日までの期間中に入手された、連邦規則法典第37編1条56項で定義された特許資格の有無に関する重要な情報について開示義務があることを認識しています。

(Application No.) (出願番号)	(Filing Date) (出願日)
(Application No.) (出願番号)	(Filing Date) (出願日)

私は、私自身の知識に基づいて本宣言書中で私が行なう表明が真実であり、かつ私の入手した情報と私の信じることに基づく表明が全て真実であると信じていること、さらに故意になされた虚偽の表明及びそれと同等の行為は米国法典第18編第1001条に基づき、罰金または拘禁、もしくはその両方により処罰されること、そしてそのような故意による虚偽の表明を行えば、出願した、又は既に許可された特許の有効性が失われることを認識し、よってここに上記のごとく宣誓を致します。

I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 (a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Priority Not Claimed
優先権主張なし

(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出願年月日)	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出願年月日)	<input type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application No.) (出願番号)	(Filing Date) (出願日)
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of application.

(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned) (現況：特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)
(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned) (現況：特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Japanese Language Declaration
(日本語宣言書)

委任状: 私は下記の発明者として、本出願に関する一切の手続きを米特許商標局に対して遂行する弁理士または代理人として、下記の者を指名いたします。(弁理士、または代理人の氏名及び登録番号を明記のこと)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (list name and registration number)

MITCHELL P. BROOK, Reg. No. 32,967, DAVID I. ROCHE, Reg. No. 30,767, ANTOINETTE F. KONSKI, Reg. No. 34,203, MOSES MARES, Reg. No. 40,716, JOHN G. FLAIM, Reg. No. 37,323, all attorneys with the firm of BAKER & MCKENZIE, which has an office address at 101 West Broadway, San Diego, California 92101.

書類送付先

Send Correspondence to:

Mitchell P. Brook
Baker & McKenzie
101 West Broadway, 12th Floor
San Diego, California 92101-3890

直接電話連絡先: (名前及び電話番号)

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)

Mitchell P. Brook
(619) 236-1441

唯一または第一発明者名

Full name of sole or first inventor

Chisato HIRATA

発明者の署名

日付

Inventor's signature

Date

Chisato Hirata

Oct. 31, 2001

住所

Residence

Tokyo, Japan JPX

国籍

Citizenship

Japanese

私書箱

Post Office Address

c/o Yugen Kaisha Task Force of 2-6, Kohinata 4-chome,

Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-0006 Japan

第二共同発明者

Full name of second joint inventor, if any

第二共同発明者

日付

Second inventor's signature

Date

住所

Residence

国籍

Citizenship

私書箱

Post Office Address

(第三以降の共同発明者についても同様に記載し、署名をすること)

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors.)